



U.S. Small Business Administration

SANTA ANA DISTRICT OFFICE

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U.S. Small Business Administration Honors 7LEAves Cafe as 2017 Family Owned Business of the Year

*Café and Tea house provides products and services to nurture, inspire and enrich
the human experience*

SANTA ANA, Calif. - 7LEAves Cafe, owned by the four Nguyen brothers Sonny, Quang, Ha, Vinh and other family members Mai Ly, Denny Ly, Triet Ho, and Viet Do has been selected 2017 Family Owned Small Business of the Year. Located in Garden Grove, CA the first 7LEAves Cafe started in 2012 in Little Saigon. The Nguyen brothers were nominated by Lisa Kim, Community & Economic Development Manager at the City of Garden Grove.

The 7LEAves Cafe concept was created by family and friends inspired by their travel experiences and the recipes they collected to provide a taste of Asian beverages to their community. 7LEAves is a coffee and tea house that believes the key to a healthy and happy life is living in harmony with nature and humanity. Their mission is to provide products and services that nurture, inspire, and enrich the human experience through their coffee, teas, and desserts. So much so, they have Ghandi's famous quotation, "Be the change you want to see in the world" hanging on the wall as a constant reminder of how they create their products and the way they serve their customers.

7LEAves Café first opened its Little Saigon location in January 2012. Since then, they have expanded to nine locations in the Orange County region with over 350 employees. Believing that education is fundamental to a robust and healthy nation, they actively work with surrounding neighborhood schools to build relationships essential to promoting communal integration and service. 7LEAves has also joined efforts with non-profit organizations in giving back to the poor throughout the world, honoring the very principles in which their core values and ideals stem from.

Each brother and family member has contributed their unique talents to the business. The 7LEAves concept was created by Quang Nguyen who is also the creative director of the company, leading the R&D and Creative Design team which includes long time friends Viet Do and Triet Ho. His responsibilities include branding, ambiance, the creation of new drinks and overseeing the company vision.

Sonny Nguyen has experience in finance, real estate and lending. He paves the way for new business partnerships, expansion of the company, forms relationships with vendors, and plans out logistics for the company.

Ha supervises the operations of the company which involves hiring and training employees, ensuring sufficient inventory for operations, and maintains quality assurance of products and the customer experience. Having earned his Juris Doctorate, he also oversees legal documentation and corporate developments.

Vinh spearheads the store development by managing the planning and buildout of each new store to ensure no details are overlooked during this process. As a former IT Director of a hospital, he also oversees anything technology related.

Mai Ly oversees the finances which includes payroll, taxes, and benefits while Denny Ly oversees the human resource aspect of the business.

With six new drive-thru stores in development, 7LEAves plans to expand to 15 stores in 2017 in different cities. The success of 7LEAves Café has opened the door to collaborations with the Vietnamese American Chamber of Commerce and has expanded the Nguyen brother's roles as leaders and mentors to the next generation of entrepreneurs.

7LEAves Cafe and the Nguyen brothers will be recognized and receive their award as the 2017 Family Owned Small Business of the Year at the local Small Business Week Awards program which will be held Friday, June 9, 2017 from 10:30 a.m. until approximately 2:00 p.m. at the Disneyland Hotel Grand Ballroom. The event is being hosted by the Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. For more information on the event or to register, email events@ochcc.com or call 714.953.4289.

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About Small Business Week

Every year since 1963, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation announcing National Small Business Week, which recognizes the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create about two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. each year. As part of National Small Business Week, the agency takes the opportunity to highlight the impact of outstanding entrepreneurs, small business owners and others at local events around the country. Every day, these individuals are working to grow small businesses, create 21st century jobs, drive innovation, and increase America's global competitiveness. For more information, please visit www.sba.gov/nsbw/nsbw.